

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an introduction of the paper. It covers the background of research, the research question, and the research purposes. It then presents the significances of the research and steps of the research.

A. Background of Research

Learning activities in the class are one of the assignments as professional teacher. Slameto (2003) said that learning is an effort process that is done by someone to get a change of fully new behavior as a result of own experience in interaction with the environment. On the other hand, Hilgard (1962) said that “learning as a process by which an activity originates or is changed through responding to a situation”.

Moreover, in learning a teacher wants students to get a good motivation. Brewster and Ellis (1991) said that motivation has been seen as a set of beliefs, thoughts, feelings that are turned into action. Motivation is the key factor that influences the rate and success of the second or foreign language learning. Being motivated to learn a language is the first impetus since the motivation will bring the learners to the feelings of enjoyment, challenge to success in learning the language.

When learning English, the role of motivation is very important in teaching and learning English process since it increases students' enthusiasm, if the students do not have any motivation in learning they will be less enthusiastic. Motivation is something that can, like self-esteem, be global, situational, or task oriented (Brown, 2007). Motivation has function in studying such as to motivate to do each activity,

to know direction the goal that want to be reached, selecting action and determining the goal that is expected to be reached by throwing a useful activity. These hereby are really important ways to know about motivation to student (Sadirman, 1992).

One of the alternatives to get students' motivation in learning English is seating arrangement. Rohani (2004) said that the seating arrangement will affect the learning process. She said that seat position has influence on learning process. By considering seat position, students will feel more fun. If the students have been comfortable, they will be easier to comprehend the subject. From definition above the researcher concludes that seating arrangement is important in order to increase students' motivation and attention in learning.

According to Jones (2005), a good classroom seating arrangement is the cheapest form of classroom management. Classroom management is activities to organize and arrange learning facility in the classroom by teacher (Wiyani, 2013). The successes learning activities depends on the teacher, on how teacher manages classroom not to be conducive. Therefore, classroom management can be influenced by how the seats are arranged in the classroom.

On the other hand, seating arrangement should have a good design. It can make students more active during learning especially in learning English. Therefore, the teacher will know whether or not the students pay attention and interest while their learning. Scardamalia and Bereiter (1996) said that class design should be flexible, creative, and able to develop problem-solving and information-finding skills.

Scardamalia and Bereiter (1996) said that students should become active participants in the learning process; that students should have the chance to interact with the teacher and with each other in order to learn the language. Students will also increase performance when they are moved to the front, even if their seat preference is in the rear of the classroom (Benedict and Hoag, 2004 cited in Minchen, 2007: 27).

Basically, seating arrangement has some types of seat position. According to Wiyani and Silberman (2013), there are several varieties of students seat position, they are Orderly Rows/ Traditional Seat Position, U-shaped, Circles, Breakout groupings, Chevron, Group Work, Theatre style/Auditorium, Workstation, Square and rectangle, Conference Table. Those can be used in the classroom to make students more active and creative. So, it can increase students' motivation in English learning. In this research, the researcher uses two types of seating arrangement. They are Row and U-shaped arrangement.

The researcher found the problem from the students that of MTs Ma'arif Cilawu in the Eighth grade students that were lack of motivation in learning English. Therefore, they were not interested in learning, feeling bored, passive, and found difficulty when learning English. As the result the students' average in English subject was still below the standard minimum score. The standard minimum (KKM) is 70. Therefore, the teacher should motivate students to improve their motivation by using seating arrangement in learning English.

Based on the previous research by Lotfy (2012) under the title “Seating Arrangement and Cooperative Learning Activities: Students’ On-task/Off-task Participation in EFL Classrooms”. It shows that some students changed their perception and preferences concerning which seating arrangement helped them learn more. Then, using seating arrangement can affect student when learning.

Thus, the researcher understand that the students need to improve their motivation in learning English. Therefore, a research entitled is conducted: **“THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SEATING ARRANGEMENT TO INCREASE STUDENTS’ MOTIVATION IN LEARNING ENGLISH”**.

B. Research Questions

The writer states the problems which will be answered in this study as follows: 1. How is the process in implementing seating arrangement to increase students’ motivation in learning English?

2. What are the students’ responses toward the implementation of seating arrangement to increase their motivation in learning English?

C. Purposes of the Research

The purposes of the research are :

1. To find out the process of implementing seating arrangement to increase students' motivation in learning English.
2. To know the students' responses toward the implementation of seating arrangement to increase students' motivation in learning English.

D. Significances of the Research

The result of the study is expected to be used theoretically and practically:

1. Theoretical Significances

- a. This research is expected to give new information or theory that seating arrangement can increase students' motivation in learning English.
- b. Theoretically, the significance of this study is to recommended a method to increase their motivation by using seating arrangement that can influence students, especially when they learn English.

2. Practical Significances

- a. The result of this study recommends to apply seating arrangement to increase students' motivation learning English.
- b. In practical significance, the result of this research can be used as a reference in the process of learning using seating arrangement when learning English.

E. Rationale

Herbert (1971) said that “learning is a process or operation inferred from relatively permanent changes in behavior that result from practice”. Hilgard (1962) said that learning as the process by which an activity originates or is changed through responding to a situation. While, Slameto (2003) said that learning is an process that is done by someone to get a change of fully new behavior as a result of own experience in interaction with the environment. Moully (1965) said that learning is the progressive change in behavior which is associated with successive presentation of a situation, and with repeated efforts of the individual to react effectively.

Based on several definitions of learning above, it can be concluded that learning is the process of behavioral change caused by existence of experience. The behavioral change includes change of skill, attitude, knowledge, comprehension, and appreciation.

Motivation is something that can, like self-esteem, be global, situational, or task oriented (Brown 2007). Williams and Burden (1997) said that motivation is a ‘state of cognitive arousal which provokes a ‘decision to act’, as a result of sustained intellectual and or physical effort’ so that the person can achieve some ‘previously set goal’. Syamsuddin (2007) said that motivation is a power, force, or energy. On the other hand, motivation is a complex state, preparatory set in organism to motive.

Hilgard (1982) said that motivation as a general term characterizing the needs, aspirations, purposes of the organism as these initiate or regulated need satisfying or goal seeking behavior”. Donald (1982) said that motivation as an energy to change with the person characterized by effective arousal and anticipatory goal

reaction. From the definitions above, it can be concluded that motivation is a situation inside human that causes someone do activities to reach a goal.

Motivation is a kind of internal drive, pushing someone to do things in order to achieve something (Harmer, 2001). In addition, Brown (2000:115) said that motivation is an inner drive or stimulus, which can be like self-esteem, be global, a situational, or task oriented. He also states that success in any task is due simply to the fact that someone is motivated. It is easy to claim that in the second language learning, a learner will be successful if they have high motivation.

Brown (2000) said that motivation is inner drive, impulse, emotion, or desire that moves one to particular act. Furthermore, Elliot (2000) said that motivation is internal state that arouses us to action, pushes us in particular directions, and keeps us engaged in certain activities. From the definitions above, we can conclude that motivation is an impulse in our heart that pushes us to do something. Through this motivation, someone will be able to do something well, since motivation will make our emotion balances with the actions which we will do.

Seating arrangement refers to how students' seats are arranged inside the class. It could be arranged in regular rows and columns, circles, or U-shapes (Brown, 2007). Seating arrangement significantly impacts on student behaviour, and there is evidence to suggest that it impacts on achievement as well (Pace and Price, 2005). Therefore, the beautiful classroom is good condition for learning. Learners will feel comfortable to receive subject from the teacher. Learners more enthusiasm in the learning process and the teacher also wills enthusiasm to teach, and giving subject.

Therefore, there are the relationship between learning, motivation and seating arrangement in the class. Seating arrangements that impact the learning process it can increase for students motivation in learn, by learning using seating arrangement students will feel more fun than before more active and enthusiasm with each other.

F. Steps of Research

1. Research Methodology

The method of this research is descriptive method by using qualitative approach. Descriptive method involves gathering data that describe events and then organizes, tabulates, depicts, and describes the data collection (Glass & Hopkins, 1984). Descriptive method describes and interprets a thing. Shank (2002) give the definition of qualitative research as “a form of systematic empirical inquiry into meaning” (p.5). The qualitative data gained from the observation sheets, interview and questionnaire are about the implementation of seating arrangement to increase students’ motivation in learning English and students’ responses.

2. Research Design

This study used qualitative research. According to Bogdan and Taylor cited by Moloeng (1999), qualitative method is a research procedure that obtains descriptive data in written or spoken form from the people and their behavior which is being observed. Based on those statements the qualitative method is purposed to search the understanding of a phenomenon. Yin (2009, p.18) states that a case study is an empirical inquiry that investigates a contemporary phenomenon in depth and within its real-life context, especially when the boundaries between phenomenon and context are not clearly evident. The qualitative approach uses the method of

subjective assessment of opinions, behavior and attitudes. The data were taken from the result of observation, questionnaire, and interview

3. Research Procedures

This research is conducted by taking this procedure:

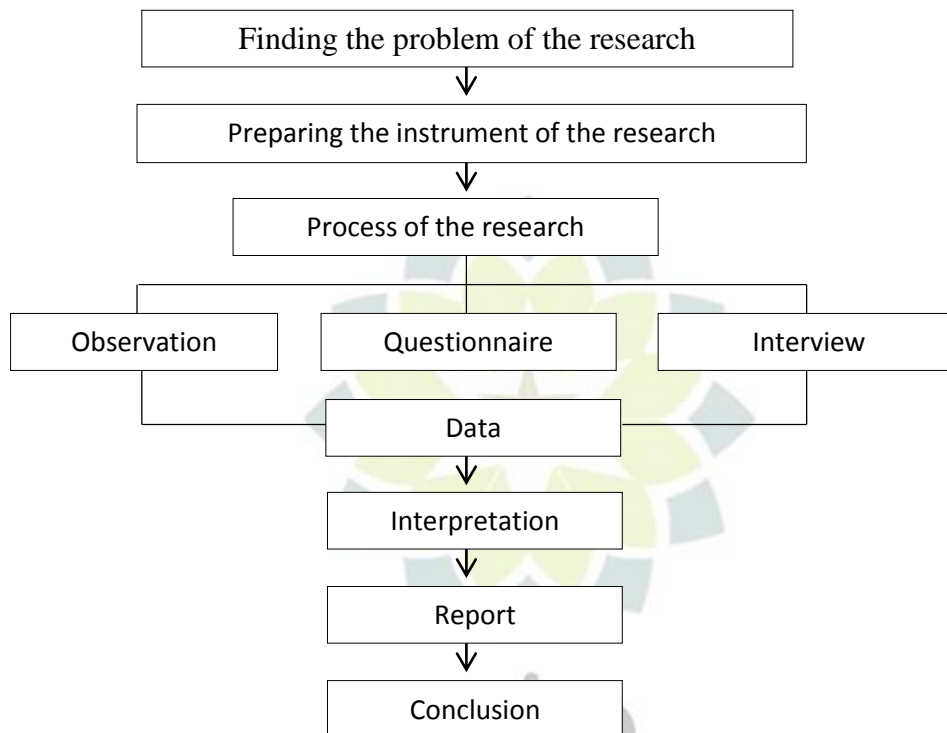


Figure 1.1 Design of the Research

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From figure above the researcher carries out the research comprising some steps as follows:

- Asking for permission to the Eighth students in MTs Ma'arif NU Cilawu.
- Implementing seating arrangement in the class.
- Giving the questionnaire about students' responses using seating arrangement in the class.
- Collecting the data of questionnaire.

- e. Conducting the interview to the Eight students.
- f. Begin the detailed analysis
- g. Interpretation the data
- h. Making conclusion.

4. Research Site and Participants

a. Research Site

This study is conducted in MTs Ma'arif, which is located at Jl. Dayeuhmanggung Cilawu Garut. The researcher chooses this school because the school is the place where the researcher did teaching practice English and the phenomenon which becomes the problem of this research is founded here. This makes the researcher easier to access the data.

b. Participants

The participants of this research are students from the Eighth grade in Ma'arif NU Cilawu. This selection of participants is based on availability of the class and the readiness of the teacher to be the participants of the research. It is aimed to gain information as specific as possible and to acquire the information that will be used as the basic of the research theory and design (Moleong, 2011). Therefore, the research takes the only available and suggested class by the school.

5. Data Collection Technique

In this research, the researcher uses triangulation technique, because in the research the researcher uses interview, questionnaire, and observation as data collection technique.

a. Observation

Observation is one of methods used by the writer. Taylor (2008, p.16) said that observation is way of gathering data by watching behavior, events, or noting physical characteristics in their natural setting. The research observes the process and interaction between students and teacher when learning English by using seating arrangement in the class. It is expected that the real fact of process and condition of students to improve their motivation by using seating arrangement can be achieved is revealed by conducting this research.

The instrument used in this observation is field note. This field note is purposed to record the process, behavior and activities of individuals at the research site. Creswell (2009) said that in these field notes, the researcher records, in an unstructured or semi structured way (using some prior questions that the inquirer wants to know), activities at the research site. Besides field note, the researcher also uses video tape for recording observational data during the process of learning using seating arrangement.

b. Questionnaire

Questionnaire can be considered of as a kind of written interview (McLeod, 2014). The questionnaire is most frequently used because it is a very concise, pre-planned set of questions designed to yield specific information to meet a particular need for research information about a pertinent topic (Key, 1997). The

questionnaire proposed to the students at MTs Ma'arif Cilawu in the eighth grade. It is intended to obtain students' responses about seating arrangement to increase students' motivation in learning English.

This research makes use of the mixed type of questionnaire, which are the closed or restricted questionnaire and open or unrestricted questionnaire. Restricted questionnaire calls for a "yes" or "no" answer, short response, or item checking, and the unrestricted questionnaire depth of response (Key, 1997;p34).

c. Interview

Interviews are a very common form of data collection in case study research (Hancock and Algozzine, 2006). Interviews provide in-depth information pertaining to participants' experiences and viewpoints of a particular topics (Turner, 2010). This research uses informal interview as the kind of interview. As Moleong (2011) states, in this kind of interview, the questions constructed depend on interviewer. It means that the question is spontaneously asked by interviewer to interviewee. In this research, the participants are interviewed some questions to explore their opinions about using seating arrangement in the class, start from their process, their difficulties when using seating arrangement in the class, and their response by using seating arrangement.

The approach used in the interview in this research is conducted in semi structured format, audiotape the interview, and transcribe the interview (Creswell, 2009 p. 170). Meanwhile, the instrument used to conduct this interview is interview protocol for asking questions and recording answer during the qualitative interview (Creswell, 2009 p.170).

G. Data Analysis

According to Patton (1980), data analysis is the process of regulating the size of the data, organize them into a pattern, category, and the basic of description unit. The researcher used three instruments in this research or triangulation to validate the data. First instrument is the observation, second is questionnaire that is distributed to the students, and the last instrument is the interview. It is shown on the figure below according to Yasmin (2012) :

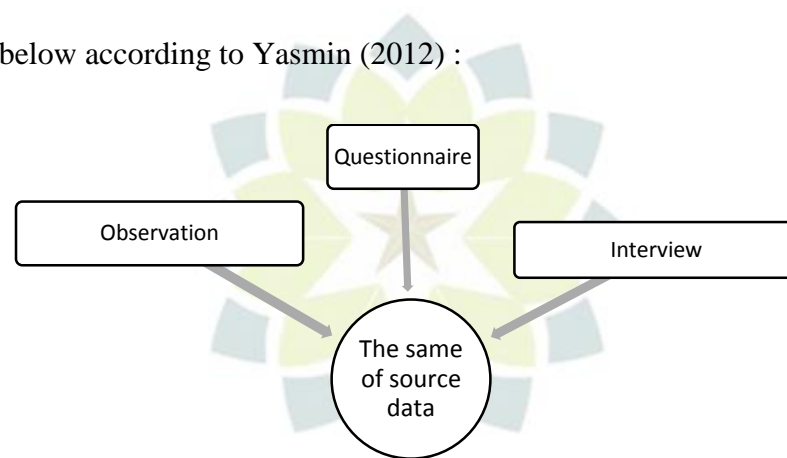


Figure 1.1 Scheme of Technique Data Analysis

Creswell (2009) said that there are four steps on analyzing a qualitative data: organizing and preparing the data, reading through all the data, beginning the detailed analysis and interpreting the data. Here are the data analysis processes in detailed explanation:

a. Organizing and preparing the data

In this step, all of the data from questionnaire, interview and observation are organized in this step. The data are collected from the participants that have been determined before.

b. Reading through all the data

After organizing and preparing the data, the data collected are read to gain the general information about students' process in using seating arrangement to increase students' motivation, and their responses to the use of seating arrangement in learning English.

c. Begin the detailed analysis

This step is different from the previous step because in this step, the researcher analyses the data that have been collected in detail. The data is related to some theories and research questions that have been posed. The purpose is to gain the detail information from the data collection.

d. Interpreting the data

This is the final step of data analysis. In this final step, the data are interpreted to gain the results of the research. After interpreting the data, the result of this research can be concluded.

H. Clarification of Terms

To avoid misunderstanding of this research, this research provides term related to seating arrangement in motivation patterns understanding.

- a. Seating Arrangement: Seating arrangement refers to how students' seats are arranged inside the class. It could be arranged in regular rows and columns, circles, or U-shapes (Brown, 2007).

- b. Motivation: Motivation can influence students' freedom, attention, attempt, patient, the frequency of using learning strategies, and their learning success (Zhou, 2012).
- c. Learning: Learning is an process that is done by someone to get a change of fully new behavior as a result of own experience in interaction with the environment (Slameto (2003).

